

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A system for automatically scanning channels of a television operable for displaying a plurality of channels of a channel lineup one at a time, the system comprising:
 - a television input device operable for being controlled by a viewer to enable the viewer to control the television to change the channels being displayed by the television, wherein the television input device is operable with the television to automatically change the channels being displayed by the television such that each channel in the channel lineup is displayed one at a time by the television for a channel display time period.
 2. The system of claim 1 wherein:
 - each channel in the channel lineup is displayed one at a time by the television for the channel display time period until the viewer controls the television input device to stop the television from changing the channels.
 3. The system of claim 1 wherein:
 - the television input device is a remote television input device operable for being controlled by the viewer to enable the viewer to remotely control the television.
 4. The system of claim 1 wherein:
 - the television input device includes a remote control.
 5. The system of claim 1 wherein:
 - the television input device includes a wireless keyboard.
 6. The system of claim 1 wherein:
 - the television input device includes an onscreen keyboard.

1 7. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device is operable with the television to pause the
3 television from automatically changing the channels in response to the viewer
4 controlling the television input device to pause the channel changing.

1 8. The system of claim 7 wherein:
2 the television input device is operable with the television to resume the
3 television to continue automatically changing the channels in response to the viewer
4 controlling the television input device to resume the channel changing.

1 9. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device is operable to enable the viewer to select
3 the channel display time period.

1 10. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device is operable to enable the viewer to select
3 the order in which the channels are automatically changed.

1 11. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device is operable to enable the viewer to select
3 whether program information associated with each channel is displayed by the
4 television with each displayed channel.

1 12. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device is operable to enable the viewer to select
3 a subset of the channels in the channel lineup to be automatically changed.

1 13. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device is operable to enable the viewer to associate
3 preference settings with the viewer such that the television input device automatically

4 changes the channels in accordance with the preference settings associated with the
5 viewer.

1 14. A method for automatically scanning channels of a television
2 operable for displaying a plurality of channels of a channel lineup one at a time using
3 a television input device, the method comprising:

4 controlling the television input device to automatically change the
5 channels being displayed by the television such that each channel in the channel
6 lineup is displayed one at a time by the television for a channel display time period
7 until the television input device is controlled by a viewer to stop the television from
8 changing the channels.

1 15. A method for automatically scanning channels of a television
2 operable for displaying a plurality of channels of a channel lineup one at a time, the
3 method comprising:

4 controlling a television input device operable for enabling a viewer to
5 automatically change the channels being displayed by the television such that each
6 channel in the channel lineup is displayed one at a time by the television for a
7 channel display time period without further action by the viewer; and

8 controlling the television input device to stop the television from
9 automatically changing the channels.

1 16. The method of claim 15 wherein:

2 the television input device is a remote television input device operable
3 for being controlled by the viewer to enable the viewer to remotely control the
4 television.

1 17. The method of claim 15 wherein:

2 the television input device includes a remote control.

1 18. The method of claim 15 wherein:

2 the television input device includes a wireless keyboard.

1 19. The method of claim 15 wherein:

2 the television input device includes an onscreen keyboard.

1 20. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

2 controlling the television input device to pause the television from
3 automatically changing the channels.

1 21. The method of claim 20 further comprising:

2 controlling the television input device to resume the television to
3 continue automatically changing the channels.

1 22. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

2 controlling the television input device to select the channel display
3 time period.

1 23. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

2 controlling the television input device to select the order in which the
3 channels are automatically changed.

1 24. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

2 controlling the television input device to select whether program
3 information associated with each channel is displayed by the television with each
4 displayed channel.

1 25. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

2 controlling the television input device to select a subset of the channels
3 in the channel lineup to be automatically changed.

1 26. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

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cancel

- 2 controlling the television input device to associate preference settings
- 3 with the viewer such that the channels are automatically changed in accordance with
- 4 the preference settings associated with the viewer.

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